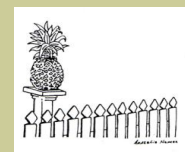


# Saxe Gotha Dispatch



## INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Museum Acquires Quilt	2
Museum Artifact on Loan	2
2014 Fundraiser Successful	3
Museum Visitation	3
Calendar of Events	4
Museum to Host Herb Fest	4
Highlighted Artifact	5

## Museum to Host Annual Spring Open House

The Lexington County Museum will host its Annual Spring Open House on May 4, 2014 from 2 pm to 5 pm.

The public is invited to see the circa 1832 John Fox House, the 1771 Laurence Corley Log House, the ca. 1815 Oak Grove Schoolhouse, and some new additions as well. Children will be able to participate in a scavenger hunt, write with quill pens, and play 19<sup>th</sup> century games. Visitors will also be able to learn about historic crafts such as blacksmithing. The Museum will have many of its artifacts, including historic rifles made in Lexington County in the first half of the 19<sup>th</sup> century by the Quattlebaum and Hall



families, in new display cases and will also have an exhibit on the Fox House after John Fox on display.

This event is free to the public. Light refreshments will be served. The Open House is a great time for visitors to learn more about the

museum and the county's history and is fun for the whole family. It also gives visitors the opportunity to explore buildings not normally featured on the typical hour long tour. Visit our website or call the museum for more information.

## Museum Past and Upcoming Outreach Efforts

Museum staff members have been busy promoting the museum recently and will continue to reach out to the community in the coming months..

The museum took part in a presentation on Edgefield's Dave the Potter in February at Lexington's Main Library and a career day at Lake Murray Elementary.

Museum staff members will also be advertising the museum and doing programs for children at this year's Kids Day in Lexington on April 26th.

## Museum Acquires 19<sup>th</sup> Century Lexington Quilt



*"They are amongst the showiest and most prized quilts in collections across the country."*

Thanks to the generous donation of Hazel W. Moore our museum is now in possession of another local example of a quilt in the wonderful "Crown of Thorns" pattern. The quilt was made by Moore's great grandmother, Laura Jane Price Snelgrove, who was born in 1849. Our best guess would be that the quilt was made sometime in the last quarter of the 19<sup>th</sup> century based on fabric choices and the birth date of its maker. It was donated to our museum in memory of Beverly A. Moore.

The quilt had descended through the family for generations which is not surprising considering its beauty. In fact, quilt lovers have long admired quilts made in this pattern which also bears the more widely known name of "New York Beauty." They are amongst the showiest and most prized quilts in collections across the country. These textiles were fancy quilts often made to cover a guest's bed or for special occasions and they were a

great way for a quilter to show off her skills. There happen to be even more names for this pattern including "Rocky Mountain" and even "President Polk in the White House," though "New York Beauty" seems to be the one that has stuck. Many would be surprised to learn that the quilt pattern did not originate in New York. In fact, the earliest documented mid-19<sup>th</sup> century quilts in this pattern have been found to have originated in the South. So how then did it become widely known in the quilting world as "New York Beauty?" Scholars can trace the name change back to the 1930s when pattern instructions which were included with batting material manufactured by the Stearns and Foster Company renamed the popular pattern to something they thought would sell better.

The newly donated quilt will be right at home in our museum and will accompany a rich collection of Lexington made quilts of

that same time period. It will be on display in the Fox House during the museum's annual Spring Open House this year. The museum is always on the lookout for additions to our wonderful collection so if you or anyone you know is thinking about donating, please don't hesitate to call.

Thanks to Leslie Jenison's 2011 essay, "I Love New York Beauties" published on The Quilt Index's webpage and DK Quilt Guild's December 2013 post "The History of The New York Beauty Quilt" for providing some additional information about the history of these quilts.

<http://www.quiltindex.org/essay.php?kid=3-98-9> and <http://www.dailykos.com/story/2013/12/08/1259645/-DK-Quilt-Guild-The-History-of-The-New-York-Beauty-Quilt>

## Lexington Artifact on Display at Historic Columbia

Historic Columbia Foundation has recently borrowed Lexington County Museum's Boozer School Bench for display in their newly renovated Woodrow Wilson Boyhood House. The bench was originally used in the

Boozer School, a school built for the education of freed slaves and their descendents by Judge Lemuel Boozer. The bench features names scratched onto the rear of the bench by some of the children. The bench will

help Historic Columbia tell the story of education during the Reconstruction era. To learn more about the Wilson House and Historic Columbia, visit: <http://www.historiccolumbia.org/woodrow-wilson-family-home>

## Celebrating Lexington's Arts Museum Fundraiser Successful

More than 175 people helped us celebrate the arts of Lexington County at the Friends of the Lexington County Museum's 2014 fundraiser. Guests were treated to drinks and great food by Hudson's Catering including country fried steak and shrimp and grits. Ganbei Japanese Restaurant also treated guests to delicious sushi appetizers. The Great Society Band of Lexington provided entertainment.

To celebrate the arts of Lexington, several paintings and books from Lexington artists and authors were on display. Guests were also treated to a performance by ballet dancers and a retrospective of the career of Lexington's George Boozer.

Overall the gala raised more than \$9,500 for the museum. This year's sponsors are listed to the right. We would also like to thank those who contributed to the silent auction. To find out how you can help the museum continue to preserve the county's rich history, contact us at [museum@lex-co.com](mailto:museum@lex-co.com).

### **2014 Fundraiser Contributors**

#### **Platinum**

Anonymous  
Blue Cross Blue Shield of SC  
Great Society Band  
Event Management  
Richard and Kristin Hook

#### **Gold**

Kent Collins Law Firm  
Edith Harmon  
Maro and Hugh Rogers  
Town of Lexington

#### **Silver**

ALSCO  
Scott Adams  
Caughman Harman Funeral Home  
Cherokee Trail Veterinary Hospital  
Comporium  
Ganbei Japanese Restaurant  
Michelin  
Doris and Redd Reynolds  
Richard and Sharon Shealy  
Walter P. Rawl and Sons Inc.  
Wooten and Wooten Auctioneers and Appraisers

#### **Bronze**

Hampton Caughman  
Raymond and Lib Caughman  
Ted and Sylvia Clyburn  
Charlotte and Jimmy Compton  
John and Mandy Derrick  
Marvin and Zoe Hendrix  
David and Becky Hipp  
Jo and Charlie Mayer  
Carol and James Metts  
Mid-Carolina Electric Coop.  
Ed and Kelley Mintz  
Palmetto Wine and Spirits  
John W. and Karen Parrish  
Pine Press Printing  
Mr. and Mrs. Murray Price  
Otis and Melissa Rawl  
Pat and Clifton Rogers  
Cynthia and Phillip Smith  
Hal and Carolette Turner  
Rose Wilkins  
Willie Wingard  
Richard and Joyce Wingate  
Wingard's Nursery and Garden Center

## Museum Visitation in January and February 2014

January and February are typically slow months at the museum and this year was no different.

In January, the museum saw 430 total visitors including visitors from six states other than SC as

well as the United Kingdom.

392 people visited the museum in December.

Visitors came from Canada and four states other than SC.

School groups from many of the school districts in Lexington and Richland Counties took part in our free programs for children as well.

Tourists and school groups will return as the weather warms up.





## Museum Calendar of Events

April 5, 2014 – Herb Bunch's 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual "It's All About Herbs" Festival  
9 am to 4 pm  
Lexington County Museum Complex

May 4, 2014 – Friends of the Museum Annual Meeting, 1:00 pm  
Spring Open House 2 pm to 5pm  
Free to the Public

June 21, 2014 – Members Family Day  
Free for Members of the Friends  
More Information Will Be Announced

Call the museum at 803-359-8369 or email [museum@lex-co.com](mailto:museum@lex-co.com) to find out more about these events.

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## Museum to Host Third Annual Herb Festival

Join the Lexington County Herb Bunch on April 5<sup>th</sup> from 9 am to 4 pm for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual "It's All About Herbs" Festival to be held on the grounds of the Lexington County Museum Complex. Festival admission is free for all. Activities include a plant sale with many varieties of herbs, herb and plant related vendors, a bake sale, free herb mini-demonstrations, seminars, and a silent auction and raffle. Proceeds from the festival will go to several causes including helping fund a scholarship; maintaining a garden on the grounds of the Lexington County Museum; and to provide professional herbalists to educate the Lexington community. For more information contact Herb Bunch member Merritt Lucas at [merrittlucas@pbtcomm.net](mailto:merrittlucas@pbtcomm.net).

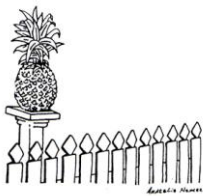


## Lexington County Museum

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**Fax** 803-808-2160  
**E-mail** [museum@lex-co.com](mailto:museum@lex-co.com)

## Gateway to Yesterday



**We're on the Web!**  
**[www.lex-co.sc.gov/museum](http://www.lex-co.sc.gov/museum)**

The Lexington County Museum was started in 1970 to collect, preserve and present the history of Lexington County. After initially having only one historic house, the museum expanded and now has thirty historic structures over seven acres in downtown Lexington. Through exhibits in historic houses, the museum interprets everyday life in the town of Lexington and throughout Lexington County from the eighteenth century to the start of the Civil War. The museum offers guided tours to visitors for a small fee and has thirteen different hands-on programs for school groups free of charge by appointment. These programs attract schools from around the state and educate students about the history of Lexington County and about the everyday life of Lexington County residents in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries.

The Friends of the Lexington County Museum is a non-profit group founded in 1997 with an advisory board, officers, and a board of trustees representing all municipalities in Lexington County. Its mission is to enhance the Lexington County Museum through its duly appointed commission and to support, aid, and assist in the improvement and expansion of the Museum. The Friends group sponsors fund-raising projects to help further the Museum's valuable contribution to the county, including the project described below. The Friends group has raised over \$270,000 for the museum so far. To learn more about the Friends or to join, visit the museum's webpage ([www.lex-co.sc.gov/museum](http://www.lex-co.sc.gov/museum)).

## Highlighted Artifact from the Museum's Collections

This issue's highlighted artifact is a Beaumont-Adams revolver made circa 1860. Originally developed as a five shot double action revolver by London gunsmith Robert Adams, this pistol was made to allow single action by Lt. Frederic Beaumont of the British military. This revolver was used by the British army for around twenty years and saw service in the United States during the Civil War. Both the Union and Confederate armies used this weapon to varying degrees. View this pistol and other weapons at the Lexington County Museum.

